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/Mark D. Saralino/ Mark D. Saralino	<u>June 2, 2008</u> Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:     Hideaki MITA et al.

Serial No.:                 10/533,485

Filing Date:                October 27, 2005

For:                         RECORDING METHOD AND RECORDING APPARATUS THAT  
                                     LIMITS NUMBER OF REWRITES TO THE SAME STORAGE  
                                     AREA

Examiner:                  Hashem Farrokh

Art Unit:                    2187

Attorney Docket No.:     YAMAP0978US

**Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included with the Notice of Allowance mailed on April 17, 2008, indicates that a primary reason for allowance of claims 11, 13 and 14 is the inclusion of the feature "wherein the search for unallocated areas in the information recording area in step (a) is performed from a start of the information recording area in a fixed direction".

Applicants wish to clarify that claim 11 actually refers to “wherein the search for unallocated areas in the information recording area in step (a) is performed from a position following the position indicated by the pointer in a fixed direction”. Such feature is similarly found in allowed claim 3. Claim 13 actually refers to the feature of “an allocating section for allocating unallocated areas identified in the search performed by the holding section with higher precedence than unallocated areas that have become unallocated areas only after the search performed by the holding section”. Such features are analogous to the features recited in allowed claim 1. Claim 14 depends from claim 13.

Accordingly, applicants believe the Examiner intended to reference claims 11 and 13-14 in relation to the reasons for allowance of claims 3 and 1, respectively.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

If there are any fees associated with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 18-0988 (Order #YAMAP0978US).

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

/Mark D. Saralino/

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Reg. No. 34,243

DATE: June 2, 2008

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